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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Thirty-sixth session
Vienna, 11-20 March 1992
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Programming and coordination matters related to the United Nations and the United Nations system.

4. Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

5. Priority themes:

   (a) Equality: Elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women;

   (b) Development:

      (i) Integration of women in the process of development;

      (ii) Women and the environment;

   (c) Peace: Equal participation in all efforts to promote international cooperation, peace and disarmament.

6. Preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace.

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-sixth session.

Annotations

Item 1. Election of officers

1. Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that, at the commencement of the first meeting of a regular session, the Commission shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chairman, one or more Vice-Chairmen and such other officers as may be required. At past sessions, the Commission has elected, in addition to a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

2. In resolution 1987/21, the Economic and Social Council recommended that, in order to enhance the effectiveness of the work of the Commission, the officers elected to the bureau of the Commission serve for a term of office of two years. The Commission will be required to elect a new bureau at the present session. The officers elected would serve during the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions.

3. The membership of the Commission in 1992 is given in annex II to the present document.

Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

4. Rule 7 of the rules of procedure provides that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, after the election of its officers, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

5. In resolution 1987/22 on measures to strengthen the role and functions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Economic and Social Council decided to structure the agenda for future sessions of the Commission around its functions, namely programming, coordination, monitoring and policy development.

6. The provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission were approved by the Economic and Social Council in decision 1991/231. The annotations to the provisional agenda set forth below take into account those resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session that are relevant to the work of the Commission.

7. Proposals concerning the organization of work of the thirty-sixth session of the Commission appear in annex I of the present document.

8. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/69, the Commission will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the status of preparedness of documentation for the session.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the status of preparedness of documentation (E/CN.6/1992/L.1)

Item 3. Programming and coordination matters related to the United Nations and the United Nations system

Programme matters

Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

9. The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General providing information on proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 intended to reflect new mandates adopted during 1990 and 1991.

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

10. In resolution 1991/17, the Economic and Social Council urged the Secretary-General to accord greater priority to increasing the number of women in posts subject to geographical distribution, particularly in senior policy-level and decision-making posts, in order to achieve an overall participation rate of 35 per cent by 1995; it also urged him to accord priority to increasing, by 1995, the participation rate for women to 25 per cent in posts at the D-1 level and above, taking into consideration the need to increase the representation of women from developing countries and those countries with a low representation of women.

11. In the same resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to ensure that his annual report, updated as appropriate, on progress achieved, included strategies and modalities for implementing the action programme and the relevant mandates adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and to submit the report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session and to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, as well as to those bodies that had administrative, budgetary and personnel responsibilities for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat.

12. In resolution 46/100, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure that a comprehensive study of the barriers to the advancement of women and an action programme for the advancement of women in the Secretariat for the period 1991-1994 were submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session and that a progress report was given to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session.

13. The progress report of the Secretary-General on this question will be before the Commission. The annual report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session will be made available for information.

Coordination matters

14. By resolution 1989/105, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the timetable proposed by the Secretary-General for the preparation of a system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001. In the timetable, it was proposed that a preliminary report

outlining the proposed framework of the plan be submitted to the Council through the Commission and the Committee for Programme and Coordination. The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the preparation of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (E/CN.6/1992/12)

Progress report of the Secretary-General on improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (E/CN.6/1992/11)

Report of the Secretary-General on the preparation of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001 (E/1992/6)

Documentation for information

Report of the Secretary-General on improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (A/46/377)

Item 4. Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

Second report on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

15. In resolution 1988/22, the Economic and Social Council decided that the biennial reports of the Secretary-General on monitoring of progress made by the organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women should be considered by the Commission on the Status of Women in even-numbered years, beginning in 1990.

16. In resolution 1990/9, the Council requested the Secretary-General to base the second report on progress made in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies on national reports and available analyses of statistical data in the United Nations system, as well as in other pertinent governmental and non-governmental organizations. It further requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session a report containing (a) information on data that would be used in the formulation of the second report and (b) an outline of the second report, in which special emphasis should be given to the recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, contained in the annex to Council resolution 1990/15, in particular those referring to the condition of women in developing countries. Further information on the intended format for the second review and appraisal is included in the report on preparations for the

Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, which is before the Commission under item 6.

17. In resolution 35/7 on women and development, the Commission on the Status of Women urged Governments to adopt policies to promote economic development that would ensure the full and explicit integration of women's concerns. It requested Member States to make provision for specific training programmes for women in rural and urban areas aimed at developing their technical and management skills and to give financial support, fellowships or both for training women, particularly those from developing countries, in science, technology, agriculture and management, and requested all relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations system to strengthen their commendable efforts to support the economic advancement of rural women. The Commission requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the resolution in his biennial report on monitoring the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies.

18. In resolution 1991/22, on national, regional and international machinery for the advancement of women, the Council urged countries that had not yet done so to establish, as soon as possible, and at the latest by 1995, national machinery for the advancement of women that could have a direct effect on government policy. The Council requested the Secretary-General to report to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session on the activities of the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women, that provided assistance to national machinery to ensure that the work being done by those bodies was complementary and did not overlap. The Council decided that an evaluation of the effectiveness of efforts to establish and improve national machinery since the adoption of the Forward-looking Strategies in 1985 and an analysis of the further action that was required should be included in a report for submission to the world conference on women in 1995.

19. In resolution 46/98, the General Assembly reaffirmed the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in matters related to the advancement of women, and called upon it to continue promoting the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to the year 2000, based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the subtheme "Employment, Health and Education" and urged all organizations of the United Nations system to cooperate effectively with the Commission in that task.

20. The report of the Secretary-General on the above-mentioned issues will be before the Commission.

Violence against women in all its forms

21. In resolution 1991/18, the Council called upon Member States to recognize that violence against women had to be countered by a wide variety of measures. It recommended that a framework for an international instrument be developed in consultation with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that would address explicitly the issue of

violence against women. In that connection, the Council requested the Secretary-General, through the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, to convene in 1991 or 1992 a meeting, to be funded from extrabudgetary resources, of experts representing all regions and including representatives of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, to address the issue of violence against women and to discuss the possibilities of preparing such an international instrument and the elements to be contained therein, and to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session. The relevant parts of the report of the expert group meeting on violence against women, held at Vienna from 11 to 15 November 1991, have been transmitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its eleventh session. The comments of the Committee will be transmitted to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session.

22. The report of the Secretary-General on this question will be before the Commission.

Physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex

23. In resolution 1990/5, the Council called upon all Member States that had not yet done so to take appropriate measures urgently, as necessary, to eradicate acts of physical violence against detained women and invited Member States that had not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General a report on legislative and other measures they had taken, as applicable, to prevent physical violence against detained women that was specific to their sex, so as to enable him to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session. The Council requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission prepared on the basis of reports received from Member States. The Council requested the Commission to continue to consider communications relating to the status of women and to make recommendations thereon to the Council, if necessary.

24. The report of the Secretary-General on this question will be before the Commission.

Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

25. In resolution 1991/19, the Council reaffirmed that the basic improvement of the living conditions of the Palestinian women, their advancement, full equality and self-reliance could only be achieved through an end to the Israeli occupation and the attainment of the right of Palestinians to return to their homes, their right to self-determination and their right to establish an independent Palestinian State in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

26. The Council requested the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor the implementation of the Nairobi-Forward looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraph 260 thereof, which concerned assistance to Palestinian women both inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territory.

27. The Council requested the Secretary-General to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the mission of experts to Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic to investigate the condition of Palestinian women and children (E/CN.6/1990/10, annex I) in order to improve the situation of Palestinian women in the occupied Palestinian territory, and requested him to continue his investigation of the situation of Palestinian women and children and to report to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session on the implementation of the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the mission of experts.

28. A note by the Secretary-General on this question will be before the Commission.

Women and children under apartheid

29. In resolution 1991/20, the Council urged all parties engaged in negotiations for a post-apartheid society to ensure that the principle of equality between women and men was incorporated in all laws and institutions and urged the international community to maintain all existing and any other necessary measures against South Africa until all the provisions of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution S-16/1, had been met. The Council decided that the Commission should remain seized of the issue of women and children living under apartheid.

Refugee women and children and migrant women

30. In resolution 46/98, the General Assembly urged the Commission on the Status of Women, the relevant organizations of the United Nations and Governments to give particular attention to refugee women and children and migrant women, taking into account their contribution in the social, economic and political fields and the urgent need to avoid any kind of discrimination against them.

International Year of the Family

31. In resolution 34/7, the Commission on the Status of Women decided to give further consideration to the question of the International Year of the Family at subsequent sessions in the light of the preparations for the Year being made by the Commission for Social Development. The Commission for Social Development is scheduled to meet in 1993 (thirty-third session).

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

32. In resolution 45/124, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of that resolution, and to transmit the report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-sixth session.

International Covenants on Human Rights

33. In resolution 1991/33, the Council reaffirmed the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights as major parts of the international effort to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and requested the Secretary-General to keep the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights informed of the relevant activities of a number of bodies, including the Commission on the Status of Women, and to transmit the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to all those bodies.

Communications concerning the status of women

34. In resolution 76 (V) of 5 August 1947, the Economic and Social Council established a procedure by which the Commission on the Status of Women would handle communications relating to the status of women. In that resolution, as amended by Council resolution 304 I (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950, the Council requested the Secretary-General to compile, before each session of the Commission, a list of confidential and non-confidential communications containing a brief indication of the substance of each communication. In resolution 1983/27, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, beginning at its thirtieth session, a report on confidential and non-confidential communications on the status of women, which should include communications received under Council resolutions 76 (V) and 304 I (XI), including the comments of Governments thereon, if any, and communications received by the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other United Nations bodies, together with information on action that might have been taken following the receipt of such communications. The Council also requested the Secretary-General to solicit the cooperation of the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other United Nations bodies in compiling the above-mentioned report.

35. In paragraph 4 of resolution 1983/27, the Council authorized the Commission on the Status of Women henceforth to appoint a working group consisting of not more than five of its members, selected with due regard for geographical distribution, to meet in closed meetings during each session of the Commission to perform the following functions:

> "(a) Consideration of all communications, including the replies of Governments thereon, if any, with a view to bringing to the attention of the Commission those communications, including the replies of Governments, which appear to reveal a consistent pattern of reliably attested injustice and discriminatory practices against women;
>
> "(b) Preparation of a report, based on its analysis of the confidential and non-confidential communications, which will indicate the categories in which communications are most frequently submitted to the Commission."

36. In paragraph 5 of the resolution, the Council requested the Commission on the Status of Women to examine the report of the Working Group and to avoid duplication of the work undertaken by other organs of the Council, the Commission being, in that respect, empowered only to make recommendations to the Council, which should then decide what action might appropriately be taken on the emerging trends and patterns of communications. In paragraph 6 of the resolution, the Council decided that all actions envisaged in the implementation of that resolution by the Commission on the Status of Women should remain confidential until such time as the Commission might decide to make recommendations to the Council. In this connection, the Commission will be provided with the legal opinion requested in paragraph 48 of the report on its thirty-fifth session (E/1991/28).

37. By decision 35/103, the Commission decided to defer to its thirty-sixth session consideration of the draft resolution entitled "Communications concerning the status of women" (E/CN.6/1991/L.14), as orally revised. The text of the draft resolution, as orally revised, will be before the Commission.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000 (E/CN.6/1992/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on violence against women in all its forms (E/CN.6/1992/4)

Report of the Secretary-General on physical violence against detained women that is specific to their sex (E/CN.6/1992/5)

Note by the Secretary-General on the situation of Palestinian women and children (E/CN.6/1992/6)

Draft resolution entitled "Communications concerning the status of women" (E/CN.6/1992/L.2)

Documentation for information

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth session (A/46/38)

Results of the eleventh session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (E/CN.6/1992/CRP.)

Report of the Secretary-General on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/46/462)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000 (A/46/439)

Report of the Human Rights Committee (A/46/40)

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fifth session (E/1991/23 and Corr.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the preparations for the International Year of the Family (A/46/362 and Corr.1)

Item 5. Priority themes:

(a) Equality: Elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women;

(b) Development:

(i) Integration of women in the process of development;

(ii) Women and the environment;

(c) Peace: Equal participation in all efforts to promote international cooperation, peace and disarmament.

38. In resolution 1987/24, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the priority themes for the thirty-second to thirty-sixth sessions of the Commission. The Council decided that the work of the Commission in relation to the priority themes should be closely related to the relevant provisions of the Forward-looking Strategies and of other policy documents, the programmes elaborated in the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and the relevant chapters of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, with a view to ensuring the effective implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies and lasting improvement in the situation of women. The Council also decided that the recommendations of the Commission should be addressed, at the national level, primarily to Governments, but also to non-governmental organizations - in particular women's groups - and research institutions, and, at the regional and international levels, to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and research institutions.

39. Also in resolution 1987/24, the Council recommended that, when resources were available, expert group meetings be convened to assist in the preparation of the work of the Commission on priority themes. For the present session of the Commission, the following meetings and seminars were held: expert group meeting on women in public life (Vienna, 21-24 May 1991); seminar on the integration of ageing women in development (Vienna, 7-11 October 1991); and seminar on the integration of women in development (Vienna, 9-11 December 1991). The results of these meetings have been incorporated in the appropriate reports, as has material from the Global Assembly of Women and the Environment: Partners in Life (Miami, Florida, 4-8 November 1991).

40. By decision 1990/213, the Council, recalling resolution 1987/24 and bearing in mind that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development would be held in 1992, decided to add the question of women and the environment to the priority theme to be dealt with at the thirty-sixth session of the Commission under the objective of development.

41. In resolution 46/167, the General Assembly requested the Commission on the Status of Women to make the relevant parts of the report on its thirty-sixth session available to the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

42. In resolution 46/98, the Assembly requested the Commission, when considering the priority theme related to development during its thirty-sixth and subsequent sessions, to ensure its early contribution to the work of forthcoming major international conferences, such as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in 1992, the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held in 1993, and the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in 1994, and to address the impact of technologies on women.

43. The Assembly also requested the Commission to give special attention to women in developing countries, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries, who suffered disproportionately from the effects of the global economic crisis and the heavy external debt burden, and to recommend further measures for the equalization of opportunity and for integration of these women into the development process when considering the priority theme of development.

44. The reports of the Secretary-General on the priority themes will be before the Commission.

Documentation

Equality

Report of the Secretary-General on the elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women (E/CN.6/1992/7)

Development

Report of the Secretary-General on the integration of women in the process of development (E/CN.6/1992/8)

Report of the Secretary-General on women and the environment (E/CN.6/1992/9)

Peace

Report of the Secretary-General on equal participation in all efforts to promote international cooperation, peace and disarmament (E/CN.6/1992/10)

Item 6. Preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace

45. In resolution 45/129, the General Assembly endorsed Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/12, in which the Council had recommended that a world conference on women be held in 1995, and requested that the Commission act as the preparatory body for the conference. The Assembly took note of the invitation extended by the Government of Austria to host the world conference on women in 1995 at Vienna, and requested the Commission, as the preparatory body for the conference, to decide on the venue of the conference, not later than 1992, bearing in mind that preference should be given to those regions that had not yet hosted a world conference on women. The Assembly also requested the Commission, in deciding on the preparation of documentation for the conference, to pay attention to Council resolution 1990/9 concerning the second report on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies. It also requested the Commission to focus the agenda of the world conference on the Forward-looking Strategies as well as on the recommendations and conclusions of the first review and appraisal.

46. In resolution 35/4, the Commission decided to prepare for consideration by the world conference a programme of action comprising a limited number of issues that had been identified as representing a fundamental obstacle to the advancement of the majority of women. It also decided that, within the programme of action, goals should be established, if possible in quantitative terms, and concise, action-oriented guidelines should be provided to accelerate the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies. It further decided that the programme of action should continue to focus on equality, development and peace and should include elements outlined in the resolution.

47. Also in resolution 35/4, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session a draft report to serve as a working document for the elaboration of the programme of action, based on existing United Nations data, bearing in mind that the programme of action should be concrete and concise, capable of leading to feasible, effective and immediate action, as well as awareness and political will on the part of Governments and governmental and non-governmental organizations.

48. The Commission also requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its thirty-sixth session on the contribution of the bodies, regional commissions, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the non-governmental agencies concerned, to the preparations for the conference.

49. In decision 35/102, the Commission took note of the offer made by the Government of China to host the conference in 1995, including a forum for non-governmental organizations and, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/129, agreed to make known its decision at its thirty-sixth session.

50. In resolution 46/98, the General Assembly endorsed once again Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/12 and reiterated its request that the Commission decide on the venue of the conference not later than at its thirty-sixth session.

51. In resolution 45/127, the General Assembly, having recalled its resolution 44/77, in which it endorsed the convening of an interregional consultation on women in public life, to be financed from voluntary and other contributions, decided that the consultation should be an intergovernmental meeting. In resolution 46/98, the Assembly noted the relevance of the interregional consultation on women in public life to the preparation of the Fourth World Conference on Women, and requested the Commission, at its thirty-sixth session, to make recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council for the convening of the consultation not later than 1993.

52. The report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace will be before the Commission.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (E/CN.6/1992/3)

Item 7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission

53. Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1984 (LVII), the Commission will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-seventh session, with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each agenda item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Commission to consider those documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Commission, their urgency and their relevance in the light of the current situation.

54. In resolution 1979/41, the Council decided that the provisional agenda for its subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, should be submitted to the Council for review, in order, inter alia, to establish greater consistency between the documentation of those bodies and the overall documentation requested by the Council and other subsidiary bodies and greater consistency between the requests for documentation and the medium-term plan and the programme budget.

55. In resolution 1987/24, the Council invited the Commission, at each session, when considering the provisional agenda for its next session, to identify and develop the specific work programme required to prepare for the in-depth consideration of the priority themes scheduled for that session.

56. In resolution 1990/15, the Economic and Social Council set out key priority themes in each of the areas of equality, development and peace for the period 1993-1996 for consideration by the Commission. Accordingly, the following priority themes will be considered at the thirty-seventh session of the Commission:

(a) Equality

Increased awareness by women of their rights, including legal literacy;

(b) Development

Women in extreme poverty: integration of women's concerns in national development planning;

(c) Peace

Women and the peace process.

Documentation

Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women

Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed work programme required to prepare for the in-depth consideration of the priority themes scheduled for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission

Item 8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-sixth session

57. In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission reports to the Council on the work of each session.

Annex I

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The proposed programme of work for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, set out below, has been drawn up on the basis of the guidelines annexed to Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/22 and the conference facilities allocated to the Commission.

2. Due to the heavy programme of work for the session, the following suggestions are made with a view to using the conference services and time available to the Commission in the most efficient manner.

3. It may be recalled that, on the recommendation of the Commission at its thirty-fifth session, the Economic and Social Council, by decision 1991/232, decided to approve the convening of four additional meetings, with interpretation services, to be held simultaneously with the plenary meetings of the Commission during its thirty-sixth session, in order to consider the preparations for the world conference on women in 1995. It is proposed that those four additional meetings be held informally under the chairmanship of one of the Vice-Chairmen, with a view to submitting recommendations to the Commission for consideration in plenary meeting. The four informal meetings are indicated by an asterisk in the proposed programme of work set out below.

4. In order to save time and to enable delegations participating in the informal meetings to take fully into account the comments made in plenary meeting concerning the preparations for the world conference, it is suggested that statements in the general discussion on items 4 (Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women) and 6 (Preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace) be combined into a single statement. Should this suggestion be acceptable, it is proposed that the general discussion on items 4 and 6 begin immediately after the conclusion of the general discussion on item 3, that is, in the afternoon of Wednesday, 11 March, and continue until the morning of Friday, 13 March.

5. Delegations wishing to make statements under the various items of the agenda are invited to add their names to the list of speakers as soon as possible.

6. With regard to the length of statements, it is suggested that a 10-minute time-limit be set for statements on item 3 (Programming and coordination matters related to the United Nations and the United Nations system), 12 minutes for the combined statement on items 4 and 6 and 15 minutes for item 5 (Priority themes). Should delegations wish to intervene on each theme separately, such statements should be limited to 5 minutes per theme.

7. Arrangements have been made to hold morning and afternoon meetings during the session. Meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Proposed programme of work

Week of 9-14 March

Wednesday, 11 March		Opening of the session
a.m.	Item 1	Election of officers
	Item 2	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
	Item 3	Programming and coordination matters related to the United Nations and the United Nations system (Introductory statements and general discussion)
12 noon		Closure of list of speakers on item 3
p.m.	Item 3	Continuation and conclusion of general discussion
	Item 4	Monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women
	and	
	Item 6	Preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (Introductory statements and general discussion on items 4 and 6 combined)
5.30 p.m.		Closure of list of speakers on items 4 and 6

Thursday, 12 March		
a.m. and p.m.	Items 4 and 6	Continuation of general discussion
1 p.m.		Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 3
Friday, 13 March		
a.m.	Item 3	Introduction of draft proposals
	Items 4 and 6	Conclusion of general discussion
1 p.m.		Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 4
p.m.*	Item 5	Priority themes: (a) Equality: Elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women (b) Development: (i) Integration of women in the process of development (ii) Women and the environment (c) Peace: Equal participation in all efforts to promote international cooperation, peace and disarmament (Introductory statements and general discussion on item 5 (a), (b) and (c))
5.30 p.m.		Closure of list of speakers on item 5

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* Informal meeting of the Commission on preparations for the Conference, to be held simultaneously with the plenary meeting.

Week of 16-20 March

Monday, 16 March

a.m.	Item 4	Introduction of draft proposals
	Item 3	Action on draft proposals
	Item 5	Continuation of general discussion
p.m.*	Item 5	Continuation of general discussion

Tuesday, 17 March

a.m.*	Item 5	Conclusion of general discussion
1 p.m.		Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 5
p.m.*		Informal meeting of the Commission for consideration of draft proposals under item 4
5.30 p.m.		Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 6

Wednesday, 18 March

a.m.	Item 5	Introduction of draft proposals
		followed by:
		Closed meeting of the Commission to consider the report of the Working Group on Communications
p.m.	Item 6	Introduction of draft proposals
		followed by:
		Informal meeting of the Commission to consider draft proposals under item 5

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* Informal meeting of the Commission on preparations for the Conference, to be held simultaneously with the plenary meeting.

Thursday, 19 March		
a.m.	Item 4	Consideration of and action on draft proposals
	Item 5	Consideration of and action on draft proposals
p.m.	Item 6	Consideration of and action on draft proposals
Friday, 20 March		
a.m.		Action on all outstanding draft proposals
	Item 7	Consideration of the provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission
p.m.	Item 8	Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-sixth session
		Closure of the session

Annex II

Membership of the Commission on the Status of Women in 1992

	Term expires on 31 December
Austria	1992
Bahamas	1993
Bangladesh	1994
Brazil	1992
Bulgaria	1994
Canada	1992
Chile	1995
China	1995
Colombia	1992
Côte d'Ivoire	1994
Cyprus	1993
Czechoslovakia	1995
Ecuador	1993
Egypt	1993
Finland	1995
France	1992
Ghana	1993
India	1993
Indonesia	1993
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1993
Italy	1994
Jamaica	1993
Japan	1992
Madagascar	1995
Malaysia	1993
Mexico	1994
Morocco	1992
Netherlands	1994
Nigeria	1993
Pakistan	1995
Peru	1995
Philippines	1994
Poland	1992
Russian Federation	1994
Rwanda	1994
Spain	1995
Sudan	1992
Thailand	1992
Uganda	1993
United Republic of Tanzania	1992
United States of America	1994
Venezuela	1995
Zaire	1994
Zambia	1995
Zimbabwe	1993